

Appl. No. 09/942,390
Amdt. Dated March 7, 2005
Reply to Office action of January 3, 2005

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Remarks/Arguments

Claims 1-5, 7-19, 21-23 and 25 remain in this application.

The examiner has objected to claim 20 under 37 CFR 1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim.

The examiner has stated that the drawings on record are not formal drawings.

The examiner has rejected claims 1-5, 7-17, 19-23 and 25 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over the admitted prior art and Daniel Kovacs' "Tutorial on Linked Lists."

The examiner has objected to claims 18 and 24 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In view of the above amendments and these remarks, reconsideration of the above noted rejections and objections is respectfully requested.

Drawings:

Applicant respectfully submits that the attached drawings are formal drawings.

Claim Objections:

Applicant respectfully submits that claim 20 has been canceled by the above amendments, thereby curing the grounds for the objection to claim 20 under 37 CFR 1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim.

Rejections under 35 USC 103(a):

Since dependent claim 24 has been noted as allowable, the limitation of claim 24 has been incorporated into independent claim 13, from which claim 24 previously

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depended, and claim 24 has been canceled according to the above amendments. In this manner, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 13 and the claims dependent therefrom (claims 14-19, 21-23 and 25), have been placed in condition for allowance.

Additionally, independent claim 1 has been amended above to incorporate a limitation similar to the allowable limitation of claim 24. In this manner, applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1 and the claims dependent therefrom (claims 2-5 and 7-12), have also been placed in condition for allowance.

Allowable Subject Matter:

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 18 and 24 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 18 and 24 depend from independent claim 13. According to the above amendments, however, claim 24 has been canceled and independent claim 13 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 24, thereby placing claims 13-19, 21-23 and 25 in condition for allowance.

For the reasons specifically discussed above, and others, it is believed that pending claims 1-5, 7-19, 21-23 and 25 define patentable subject matter and have been placed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the previous rejections as they might apply to the pending claims is therefore respectfully requested. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

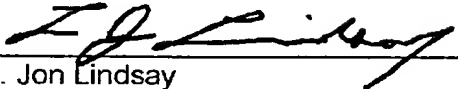
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RE: THE OFFICE ACTION

Respectfully submitted,

March 7, 2005

Date


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